

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TUNIS 05504 041353Z

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 /040 W

-----094627 050842Z /21

R 041244Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2047

INFO USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY RABAT 5539

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS TUNIS 5504

FOR OPIC

E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: EINV EAGR TS EG

SUBJ: VISIT OF AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL GROUP

REF: TUNIS 3459 (NOTAL)

1. AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL GROUP CONSISTING OF ABC VICE-PRESIDENT EUGENE GRASBERG AND DELEGATION OF CALIFORNIA FARMERS REPRESENTING WESTERN INTERNATIONAL SOILS CORP. DEPARTED TUNIS AUGUST 3 AFTER PROMISING VISIT CONCENTRATING ON JOINT VENTURES IN PRODUCE MARKETING (FOR EUROPE) WITH PRIVATE TUNISIAN PARTNERS AND POSSIBLE DAIRY VENTURE WITH STATE FARMS. HARD-WORKING WESTERN INTERNATIONAL SOILS TEAM OF RICK BAZE, DELMER COTTON (WHO RETURNED TO CAIRO) AND ERWIN DAVIS IMPRESSED TUNISIANS AND US WITH PRACTICAL APPROACH AND APPARENT WILLINGNESS TO MAKE EARLY DECISION ON INVESTMENT. THEY SAID THEY FOUND 2 OR 3 GOOD PROSPECTS FOR PART-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TUNIS 05504 041353Z

NERS AND EXPECT TO RETURN ABOUT 7 SEPTEMBER WITH TEAM TO DO FEASIBILITY STUDY (JOINTLY FINANCED WITH TUNISIAN PARTNERS) WITHIN 90 DAYS ON PRODUCE PROJECTS WITH VIEW TO MARKETING EFFORTS IN JANUARY 1979 AND SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO PROCUREMENT, PACKING AND MARKETING OF STANDARDIZED PROJECTS BY FOLLOWING WINTER. EXPORT OF FRESH PRODUCE MAY BE

COPLEMENTED BY FROZEN FOOD OPERATION.

2. WESTERN INTERNATIONAL SOILS GROUP TOLD US THEY HAD JUST SIGNED CONTRACT (AS "AMAGRA") WITH EGYPTIANS AND KUWAITI PARTNERS FOR 20,000 ACRE JOINT VENTURE NEAR ASWAN FOR PRODUCTION, PACKING AND MARKETING OF PRODUCE FOR EUROPEAN AND GULF AS WELL AS DOMISTIC EGYPTIAN MARKET. SAID THEY WISHED TO COMPLEMENT THIS WITH EXPORTS OF PRODUCE FROM TUNISIA AND MOROCCO--WITH DEGREE OF INTEGRATION AND FORM OF COOPERATION DEPENDING ON LOCAL PREFERENCES.

3. FOR CAIRO: BAZE PROMISED TO PROVIDE US WITH COPY OF FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR ASWAN PROJECT AND OF CORPORATE FINANCIAL PROFILE FROM BANK OF AMERICA ON WESTERN INTERNATIONAL SOILS CORP. OF 2418 LINCOLN, DOS PALOS, CALIFORNIA (PRINCIPALS IN WHICH ARE COTTON, BAZE, RICK PIERINI AND PAUL DEINER). WE WOULD WELCOME ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE TO MAKE ON AMAGRA GROUP AND ITS JOINT VENTURE AT ASWAN. SAME GROUP APPARENTLY EARLIER PROSPECTED IRAN AND IRAQ BUT FOUND INVESTMENT CONDITION WANTING. MULCAHY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRIBUSINESS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TUNIS05504
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780321-0539
Format: TEL
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780895/aaaadcce.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5d881d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OPIC
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TUNIS 3459
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1829023
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL GROUP
TAGS: EINV, EAGR, TS, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5d881d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014